(b) whether it is a fact that new books were not made available to the students before summer vacation which has affected adversely on their studies;

(c) if so, the persons responsible for the same and action taken against the culprits; and

(d) the concrete arrangements made by Government to ensure easy availability of the books to the students in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Under the Programme of Action (POA) 1992 of the National Educational Policy 1986, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), was advised to initiate necessary changes before 1997. The 'Council' did initiate this work but it got momentum only in 1999.The National Curriculum Framework for School Education was published in the year 2000 and the syllabi were accordingly improved thereafter. The 'Council' has introduced new text books in a phased manner w.e.f. 2002-03 session. As per information received from NCERT, they have published and released, before July 4, 2003 all the textbooks in English for all classes for the academic session 2003-04. Only six Hindi books and one Urdu language book are under print and will be made available soon.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) NCERT has been instructed this year to prepare a time bound programme for printing of books, arrange for simultaneous translation of books in Hindi, wherever necessary and take other measures to make books available for the next session at the earliest.

Removal of Hindi from Primary Schools Syllabus of CTS

2165. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindi has been removed even from Primary School syllabus of all Central Tibetan Schools;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the future destiny of Indian children studying in Tibetan Schools who will remain a stranger to Hindi and Other Indian Languages; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to safeguard the future of those children who will require to spend their lives in Indian environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Central Tibetan Schools have been established exclusively for imparting education to the children of Tibetan refugees and to preserve their culture and heritage & to maintain their identity. In these schools Hindi is being taught as a subject from class I to V under informal arrangements for Indian students. These students are studying Hindi as a compulsory subject from class VI to class X and as an optional subject in classes XI and XII.

Representation of Hindi writers in World Hindi Conference

2166. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegation to the recent World Hindi Conference at Surinam did not represent large sections of Hindi writers;

(b) whether there was a strong protest by several writers in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per information received from the Ministry of External Affairs, it is not true that Indian delegation did not represent large sections of Hindi writers in the Seventh World Hindi Conference held in Surinam.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Female literacy rate in Orissa

2167. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the female literacy rate in Orissa;

(b) the reasons for low female literacy rate in some districts of Orissa; and